

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge the objection to the declaration in accordance with 37 CFR §1.67(a), and thereby inform the Examiner of their intention to submit a corrected declaration in a supplemental response.

Figure 3 of the present application has been amended to overcome the outstanding objection to the drawings under 37 CFR §1.83(a). In particular, block 23 has been revised to read "Within 2 Frames of Final Frame?". Applicants request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Claim 3 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, Claims 1, 2 and 4 are now pending for examination. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

By this amendment, editorial changes have been made throughout the specification and claims of the present application to correct grammatical errors and other informalities. Such revisions to the specification include those required on page 3 of the outstanding Office Action to overcome the objection to the disclosure.

Furthermore, the claims have been revised to overcome the objections thereof under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Thus, it is believed that the claims, as amended, are now in compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, and therefore Applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Soo and Lee. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and further request that the rejection be withdrawn since the cited reference was presented at the Fourth International Conference on Spoken Language Processing ICSLP on October 3-6, 1996, which is after the priority date of December 22, 1995, that has been claimed for the present application.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Soo and Lee. This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of Claim 3. However, in the alternative, the rejection should be withdrawn since the cited reference is predated by the priority date of the present application.

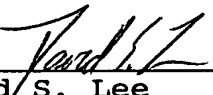
The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants respectfully submit that they do not teach or suggest the claimed invention.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135

(087.35020X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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